

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHRISTIAN
RELIEF SERVICES CHARITIES**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 19, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise because today marks a very proud day for Virginia's Eighth Congressional district. I am deeply honored to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of Christian Relief Services Charities, an international charitable organization located in the heart of my district, founded by a great Virginian and a man I'm proud to call my good friend, Eugene L. Krizek.

Throughout its 20-year history, Christian Relief has held true to one overriding principle: to help those in need both in the United States and around the world.

From this humble objective, Christian Relief has worked to improve the lives of thousands worldwide. No example illustrates this more than the efforts of Christian Relief in Africa. In some of the most poverty stricken regions on the continent, Christian Relief has offered vital development programs that address the long-term sustainability of communities for water, farming, housing, and clinics and hospitals. One particular program has educated African women, their children, and countless orphans. Christian Relief's school construction, vocational and literacy programs, and micro-credit and micro-enterprise opportunities have made it possible that new generations will possess the skills necessary for long-term community survival.

As prosperous and fortunate as our great nation is, poverty and need still exist in American communities and neighborhoods. In our urban areas, the Appalachian region, American Indian reservations, and small towns throughout our country, Christian Relief has learned firsthand how to address the basic needs for food, medicine, and affordable housing of Americans.

This last point, affordable housing, is what Christian Relief has taken special interest in. Its multi-family housing programs confront many of the long-term needs of low-wage working families and individuals caught in the debilitating cycle of poverty. In over 2,800 living units spread across Arizona, Kansas, North Carolina and Virginia, Christian Relief is empowering residents to get actively involved in their own communities and also helping them develop local programs and services to meet specific needs. At the very doorstep of this nation's Capitol, Fairfax County, Christian Relief has coordinated transitional housing for the homeless, working poor, and the disabled. Its "Safe Places Residential Program" provides a hospitable alternative to homelessness for women and children fleeing domestic violence.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the challenges that Christian Relief has overcome on American Indian reservations. For decades, they have assisted reservation families with agricultural self-sufficiency programs, culture and language preservation, water, housing, utilities, and youth centers and programs.

In particular, Pine Ridge Indian Reservation is the site of one of their most proud accomplishments. With a dire need for water and sustainable agriculture, Christian Relief pro-

vided Pine Ridge with over 300 drilled wells and installed water pumps that have provided a vital inventory of water for twenty years to families living on this remote reservation. The availability of water has allowed families to grow fresh food. Today, tribal members plant over 500 organic gardens each year.

In ending, Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my most sincere gratitude to Christian Relief's Founder and President, Eugene Krizek, its Board of Directors and dedicated professional staff. They have truly been at the service of humanity by providing hope in a sometimes unforgiving world. As I reflect on the past twenty years, I am reminded of a thought Albert Einstein offered about the nature of man. He believed that "the value of man resides in what he gives and not in what he is capable of receiving." Using this as my guide, I realize how blessed we are to have Christian Relief, and I forever understand how immeasurable their value is to mankind.

**HONORING SPECIALIST MANUEL
LOPEZ III**

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 19, 2005

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Manuel Lopez III who gave his life in service to our country in Baghdad, Iraq.

Manny, a graduate of North Rockland High School, was a dedicated friend, son, husband, father, and citizen. Throughout his life Manny assumed extraordinary responsibility and always handled it masterfully. With the passing of his father and 4-year-old brother, Manny became the rock on which his mother would lean at an early age. While still a young man, Manny would later assume the role of father and husband, providing a home for wife Kira, and their daughter, Isabella. It was for Kira and Isabella that Manny decided to enlist in the Army, hoping to provide them a better and safer future.

Manny was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, based in Fort Stewart, Georgia. In January of 2005, Manny and his unit were deployed to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. On April 1, 2005, Manny was recognized for promotion to Specialist. Less than two weeks later, Manny died when the military vehicle in which he was traveling was struck by a rocket propelled grenade.

Only twenty years old, Manny was a true patriot who never stopped providing for his family or his country, and he paid the ultimate price for loyalty to both. Our nation is blessed to have dedicated, talented men and women like Manny Lopez fighting to protect us and others around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Specialist Manuel Lopez III along with all of our nation's other fallen heroes.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOCIETY
OF AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERS
INTERNATIONAL**HON. MELISSA A. HART**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 19, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Society of Automotive Engineers International on its 100th Anniversary, and recognize the exemplary service that the organization provides the 4th District of Pennsylvania.

The Society of Automotive Engineers International is a non-profit educational and scientific organization with nearly 90,000 members in over 97 countries that is dedicated to advancing mobility technology. Members of the Society of Automotive Engineers International have developed technical information on all forms of self-propelled vehicles including automobiles, aircraft, and rail systems.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Society of Automotive Engineers International. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute the service of organizations like the Society of Automotive Engineers International which provide such valuable services.

**HONORING NANCY BEALS FOR HER
OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE
COMMUNITY**

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 19, 2005

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, this past month family, friends, colleagues, and community leaders gathered to pay tribute to an outstanding woman—someone I consider myself fortunate to call my good friend, Nancy Beals. Nancy has spent a lifetime dedicated to improving our communities and enriching our State. Most individuals associate public service with holding an elected office, however, there are those who simply hold public office, and then there are those like Nancy Beals. An educator, volunteer mentor, advocate, and State representative—Nancy has done it all.

With the multitude of organizations and groups that she has been involved with over the years, it is difficult to put into words what a difference Nancy has made through all of her good work. Our communities would not be the same without the efforts of people like Nancy who so willingly dedicate their time and energies to make them a better place for our children, families, and businesses to live and grow. Whether as a trustee for Spring Glen Church, volunteer for Connecticut Food Bank and Habitat for Humanity, high school teacher, or board member for Partnerships for Adult Daycare and the Hamden Education Foundation—Nancy's efforts on behalf of the community have touched the lives of thousands.

In addition to her myriad of community volunteer activities, Nancy also committed two decades as a local elected official. Serving for 9 years as a member of the Hamden Board of Education and 10 years as a State Representative in Connecticut's General Assembly, she